

## Message Text

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ACTION OES-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 PER-03 /019 W

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R 222348Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7380

UNCLAS MEXICO 3522

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN, APER

SUBJ: REPLACEMENT FOR SCIENCE OFFICER AND SCIENCE SECRETARY

REF: STATE 056581 AND MEXICO 2399

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY RAY FROM AMBASSADOR JOVA

1. AS DR. SIMONPIETRI'S APRIL 30 DEPARTURE DATE  
APPROACHES, YOU WILL NOT DOUBT SHARE MY CONCERN ABOUT  
PROVIDING ADEQUATE COVERAGE FOR THE EMBASSY'S SCIENCE  
PROGRAM PENDING THE SELECTION AND ARRIVAL AT MEXICO  
CITY OF A NEW SCIENCE OFFICER.

2. TO INSURE THAT THE MOST PRESSING ASPECTS OF THE  
PROGRAM WILL BE HANDLED IN A TIMELY MANNER, I HAVE  
DESIGNATED ECONOMIC OFFICER RICHARD STEMPEL ACTING  
SCIENCE OFFICER. HE SHALL ACT, OF COURSE, UNDER THE  
SUPERVISION OF ECONOMIC COUNSELOR HAYNE. INASMUCH AS  
MR. STEMPEL IS OUR MINERALS AND PETROLEUM OFFICER, AN  
ACTIVITY WHICH IS A FULL-TIME RESPONSIBILITY, HE WILL  
ONLY BE ABLE TO DEVOTE PART OF HIS TIME TO THE SCIENCE  
PROGRAM AT THE EXPENSE OF HIS REGULAR DUTIES. CLEARLY  
WE SHALL REQUIRE ASSISTANCE IN ASSESSING AND REPORTING  
THE MORE TECHNICAL SCIENTIFIC DEVELOPMENTS AND IN  
REPRESENTING OUR BROAD NATIONAL INTERESTS IN MEXICO'S  
SOPHISTICATED SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY. IT IS HOPED,  
THEREFORE, THAT DR. SIMONPIETRI MAY RETURN AS A  
CONSULTANT FOR BRIEF VISITS AND, MORE IMPORTANT, THAT  
YOU WILL FIND IT POSSIBLE TO DETAIL TO MEXICO CITY A  
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MEMBER OF YOUR STAFF TO OVERSEE THE PROGRAM UNTIL A

PERMANENT ATTACHE CAN ARRIVE.

3. AS YOU ARE AWARE, WE ARE REVITALIZING OUR EFFORTS TO MEET A US. COMMITMENT STIPULATED IN THE JUNE 1972 PRESIDENT-TO-PRESIDENT SCIENCE BILATERAL AND TECHNICAL EXCHANGE AGREEMENTS UNDER WHICH WE ANNUALLY SEEK TO SEND TO THE US. FOR SPECIAL TRAINING A SELECTION OF MEXICO'S PROMISING PROFESSIONAL TECHNICIANS. MOREOVER, WE ARE COMMITTED TO GIVE THRUST AND EFFECT TO SECRETARY KISSINGER'S PROMISE OF A NEW DIALOGUE IN THE FIELD OF SCIENCE AND THE TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY. IN BOTH OF THESE PROGRAMS THERE IS AN IMPORTANT ROLE TO BE PLAYED BY OUR SCIENCE OFFICER. THIS CIRCUMSTANCE UNDERSCORES MY DESIRE TO HAVE AVAILABLE A FULLY COMPETENT SCIENCE ADVISER DURING THE MONTHS AHEAD.

4. I WOULD ALSO BE GRATEFUL IF YOU WOULD URGE ERDA OFFICIALS TO GRANT EARLY AUTHORIZATION TO EMPLOY MRS. BILLYE SUE JONES WHOM WE HAVE PROPOSED AS SECRETARY TO THE SCIENCE ATTACHE. THE ABSENCE OF SECRETARIAL SUPPORT SINCE JANUARY HAS BEEN A SERIOUS HANDICAP, AND WITH DR. SIMONPIETRI'S DEPARTURE, MRS. JONES' PRESENCE BECOMES VITAL. YOUR SUPPORT IN MOVING THIS APPOINTMENT TOWARDS A FAVORABLE AND EARLY DECISION WILL BE APPRECIATED.  
JOVA

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